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ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER

H. T. BATES, O.B.E., B.A., M.B.,

FOR THE YEAR

1925

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ILKLEY
Hemsley & Sons, Printers
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ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

TOWN HALL, ILKLEY,

December 31st, 1925.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the sanitary condition of the Urban District of Ilkley for the year 1925.

In accordance with instructions received from the Minister of Health under the Sanitary Officers Order, 1922, the Annual Report for 1925 is to be a survey report, and should deal comprehensively with the following matters—

(a) The measure of progress made in the area during the past five years in the improvement of the public health.

(b) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area.

(c) Any further action of importance in the organisation, or development of public health services contemplated by the local authority or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health.

The subjects to be dealt with in the report fall under the following main heads: Natural and social conditions of the area; general provision of health services in the area; sanitary circumstances of the area; housing; inspection and supervision of food; prevalence of, and control over infectious disease; maternity and child welfare.

The Urban District of Ilkley is a residential district about fifteen miles from the large manufacturing areas of Leeds and Bradford. Set on the south side of the river Wharfe, it comprises an area of 3,822 acres. Of this area 1,900 acres is moorland belonging to the township and forming the most valuable asset. The town is open, containing no congested areas, and a large proportion of detached residences. There are in addition fifteen open spaces comprised of gardens, allotments, and a large recreation ground. No large manufactories exist.

Ilkley Old Bridge is about 200 feet above sea level, and the moors rise to a height of 1,323 feet. Situated at the edge of large tracts of moorland, with a bracing climate, Ilkley is an ideal inland health resort.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area—3,822 acres; Population (Census 1921)—9,098; Estimated Population 1925—8,749.

There is a large influx of visitors during the summer months.

Number of inhabited houses 1921—1,946; number of families or separate occupiers 1921—2,045.

Rateable Value 1925	...	...	£81,076
Penny Rate 1925	...	...	£310

A large proportion of the population travel daily to the neighbouring manufacturing areas. This moving population is likely to introduce infectious disease into the area, but during the period under consideration no epidemics of serious dimensions have occurred.

The artisan class is represented by the building trades, laundry, gardeners, etc.

Hospital Accommodation.

Hospital accommodation is provided by the Ilkley Coronation Cottage Hospital which is supported partly by endowment but chiefly by voluntary subscriptions. Those patients who can do so are expected to contribute towards their upkeep.

Infectious Diseases.

Infectious diseases are treated at the Wharfedale Union Joint Isolation Hospital at Menston, where the Joint Small-pox Hospital is also situated. This hospital is, as its name implies, for the Constituent Authorities in the Wharfedale Union, and is supported by them entirely. The accommodation is as follows—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	50 beds
Diphtheria	...	...	...	16 beds
Observation and Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	10 beds

Cases of Tuberculosis are dealt with by the County Authority of the West Riding.

There is no Maternity Hospital but cases of abnormal Labour may be admitted to the Cottage Hospital. Cases are also sent to the General Hospitals at Leeds and Bradford.

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children and homeless children in the district.

Clinics.

There is a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. This is held in the Primitive Methodist Sunday School buildings, in Wharfe View Road, every Wednesday afternoon at 2-30 p.m. The Medical Officer and Health Visitor are in attendance.

The School Clinic, under the County Authority, has been discontinued, the needs of the community not justifying its existence.

Ambulance Facilities.

A motor ambulance is provided by the local authority for cases of accident and disease. Infectious cases are dealt with by the ambulance belonging to the Joint Isolation Hospital at Menston. The Ilkley ambulance, only provided in 1925, has more than justified the expense* of provision and upkeep. A charge is made for its use outside the Urban District.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Ilkley District Nursing Association provides two nurses for the home nursing of non-infectious cases. These nurses also practise midwifery. The Association is supported by voluntary subscriptions.

No nurses are at present provided by the Sanitary Authority. Under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme a part time Health Visitor is employed in conjunction with the County Council, giving three-fifths of her time to health visiting and employing the remainder as School Nurse under the County Council.

Midwives.

The supervision of these is by the county authority. Four midwives are practising in the district.

Chemical Work.

Chemical work such as water analysis is performed by Mr. F. W. Richardson, analyst. Bacteriological examinations have been performed at the County Laboratory at Wakefield.

Public Health Staff.

	Salary
Medical Officer of Health (Part-time appointment), also M.O. of Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	£150
(Portion of salary paid by Ministry £75 p.a.)	

Salary as M.O. to Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic
£30 p.a., of which a part is ultimately recovered.

H. T. Bates, O.B.E., Moderator B.A., M.B., B.Ch.

Sanitary Inspector, also Superintendent House Refuse Removal, Petroleum and Drainage Inspector	£300
(of which £150 is paid by Ministry)	

Henry West.

Health Visitor and Nurse to Maternity and Child Welfare
Centre—Miss Broughton, Hospital-Trained Nurse and
C.M.B. Certificate, Trained Health Visitor and West
Riding County Council School Nurse

The I.U.D.C. contribute £35 p.a. towards the nurse's
salary.

Legislation in Force.

Local Acts and Orders—

Ilkley Waterworks Act, 1852.
Ilkley Gas Acts, 1869, 1871, 1879.
Ilkley Local Board Acts, 1871, 1893.
Ilkley Order, 1923, re W.C. Conversions.

Adopted Acts.

The following Acts have been adopted by the Ilkley Local Board
and Urban District Council, viz :—

Name of Act.	Date of Resolution adopting Act.
Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889... ..	Dec. 4, 1889
Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts I, III and V)	Nov. 6, 1890
Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1890 (Parts II and IV)	April 1, 1891
Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890	April 1, 1891
Museums and Gymnasiums Act, 1891	June 5, 1895
Private Street Works Act, 1892	April 7, 1897
Public Libraries Acts, 1892-3	Aug. 6, 1902
Baths and Wash-houses Acts	Jan. 7, 1903
Notification of Births Act	June 7, 1911

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1907 (Portion) Nov. 5, 1913

Sections adopted :—Secs. 17, 19, 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, comprised in Part II.

Secs. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 47, 49, 50 and 51, comprised in Part III.

Secs. 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66 and 67, comprised in Part IV.

Part VI and Part X.

Health Resorts and Watering Places Act, 1921 ... Dec. 7, 1921

Application has been made to adopt certain portions of the Public Health Act, 1925, namely Parts II, III V.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.—The water supply of the district is derived from the moorlands, almost entirely from springs of which there are 24. The water is of exceptional purity and is very soft. There are five reservoirs, situated from 1,000 to 500 feet above sea level, having a capacity of 8,562,000 gallons. The average daily supply is 350,000 gallons. The surplus water from the higher reservoirs flows into the lower ones.

The newest reservoir, Panorama Reservoir, holds 8,100,000 gallons. This is only used in times of drought. It is fed from the overflow of springs but a stream can be turned into it. The water is exceptionally soft, and passes through a hardening chamber before use, when it is also mixed with water from springs of greater hardness.

The water from Backstone Beck at the Ben Rhydding end of the district also requires hardening. These waters may, under certain conditions be plumbo solvent, but this is carefully guarded against. No traces of lead poisoning have ever been found.

During the past five years no shortage of water has occurred, and no restrictions have been placed on the water supply, but I am of the opinion that further steps should be taken to provide for the future growth of Ilkley and the probable enlargement of the district by the inclusion in it of the residential part of Myddleton.

Annual rainfall during past five years—

1921	...	...	...30·38 inches
1922	...	...	...37·30 „
1923	...	...	...45·33 „
1924	...	...	...37·46 „
1925	...	...	...39·51 „

In 1925 we had six weeks drought in June and July, but the supply was adequate, although call was made on the Panorama Reservoir.

The following is a list of the principal springs with their average daily yield—

Average daily consumption.

Old Reservoir ...	...	...	...227,100 gallons.
H.T.R. West End ...	...	...	...102,700 „
H.T.R. East (B.R.) ...	...	...	...107,700 „
Weary Hill Reservoir	...	...	19,500 „
Ghyll Head Reservoir	...	...	24,400 „

Average daily consumption 481,400 „

Springs' Winter yield (daily) ...639,650 gallons.

Springs' Summer yield (daily) ...264,000 gallons.
(After 45 days drought)

Becks' Summer yield—Well Hall ...	15,000	„
Spicey Ghyll	25,000	„
Black Beck ...	60,000	„

364,000 „

Drawn from storage daily 90,000 „

454,000 „

The River Wharfe is not used for the water supply of the township. Reports from the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries show that this is in a satisfactory condition, no pollution occurs, and that its state below the effluent from the sewage works is also satisfactory. The small streams on the moor are in times of drought turned into the water system to augment the supply from springs. These are free from pollution but require constant watching to prevent any occurring. It is my opinion that a larger storage system is necessary.

Drainage and Sewerage.

This is satisfactory but further provision is necessary for storm water. More surface water drains have been laid, but they have not yet reached a satisfactory state. During the past five years the Ilkley Sewage Works have been improved by the erection of a sludge-ejector station and the sludge is trenched. There are five large sedimentation tanks and two small debrilus tanks, also two percolation filters. This is found to be adequate. The effluent is satisfactory. The Ben Rhydding filter-beds are land filtration beds and are adequate.

Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is in use. The number of water closets in the district at the end of 1925 is 3,084. The number of waste-water closets is now only 65 and these are being rapidly altered to water closets as they become unsatisfactory. There are 20 pail closets in isolated spots, and no privies exist.

Scavenging.

This is performed by the Council. Movable ashbins must be provided by the tenants and these are emptied every ten days, or more often if possible. The refuse is incinerated at the destructor. Horses and carts are used. A certain amount of ashes, etc., are tipped, the tip being on the western boundary. There is no salvage of waste material.

The sanitary inspection of the Area is set forth in the Sanitary Inspector's Report which is appended.

I am pleased to say that the question of smoke abatement is being actively discussed. Apart from the usual observations, the District Council have encouraged the use of gas and electric cookers, and have installed many in the new artisan's houses. The "Domestic Rate" also encourages the use of electricity. I have, not once, but many times seen the sun rise over a beautifully clear valley. Then one by one the domestic fires are lit. Gradually one has seen the valley become more and more hazy. In the residential district it is the homely domestic chimney which is the pollutor of our atmosphere. In the big cities it is even more so the case. The factory chimney is watched by the local authority and also by the company who foot the coal bill. Therefore 'O people' put your houses in order.

The milk supply of the district is very good. The milk is of good quality and on the whole very clean. We have one producer of 'Grade A' milk. I am an earnest advocate of the latter, but all milk should be 'Grade A.' There is still a lamentable ignorance of the fact that milk must be clean in order to have keeping qualities, and that dirty milk is the breeding ground of disease.

Schools.

The sanitary condition of the schools and their water supply is excellent. There is no overcrowding. I have made inspections from time to time, and received prompt notification of infectious disease.

The health of the scholars has been universally good. Minor outbreaks of measles have occurred, also whooping cough and mumps. These are the most frequent causes of mild epidemics, but no outbreak serious in type or extent has occurred.

Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations.

The Public Abattoir is the property of the township. It is well-kept and clean. A cooling room has been added and enlarged. The whole is well-ventilated and adequate. Lock up places have been provided, apart from the abattoir, for the use of the butchers to store hides, fat, etc., until removal.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There has been a very marked and general improvement. Many cowsheds have been altered and enlarged, fresh dairy provision made, and arrangements for sterilising churns, etc. Great credit is reflected on the sanitary Inspector for his work in this direction. In most cases improvements can only be carried out under great difficulties. There has been a willing co-operation on the part of the producers and retailers in the district.

The Public Bakehouses are satisfactory. Further particulars are included in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

The food supply of the district is excellent.

Housing.

Considerable activity has prevailed in the district. The Council have erected 24 parlour-type houses, under the 1919 Act, on their site near Ben Rhydding. These are all occupied. A further 40 houses are to be erected under the 1924 Act. There is a demand for small houses for the working class.

The number of houses erected under the subsidy of £100 by private enterprise is 13. Houses erected privately number 25 and are of the villa type. No overcrowding exists in the district, and there are no unhealthy areas. Further particulars of inspections, etc., are found in the subjoined Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Total houses erected in 1925 is 62.

Infectious Diseases.

There has been no notable outbreak of infectious disease. The most noteworthy fact has been the small number of such cases particularly during 1925. I attribute the improvement chiefly to the gradual abolishing of waste-water closets. The total number of notifications received in 1925 was only 42 (including tuberculosis). Diphtheria antitoxin is always available. No cases of Encephalitis Lethargica occurred and no 'return cases' of Scarlet Fever could be traced. In fact only three cases of the latter disease were notified.

Disease			Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	TOTAL DEATHS	
					Male	Female
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	3	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	1	1	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	...	...	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever		...	1	—	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	10	—	4	2
Measles	...	...	15	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	3	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			1	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.

No deaths have occurred from tuberculosis in non-notified cases. Five new cases were notified, of whom three died, as under—

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-pulmonary M	Non-pulmonary F	Pulmonary M	Pulmonary F	Non-pulmonary M	Non-pulmonary F
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
35 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	2	1	—	2	—	1	—

Notification of infectious disease is immediate and every help is given by the medical practitioners.

The following table gives the number of infectious cases notified during the past five years—

Disease			1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	15	41	8	19	3
Measles ...	...	...	—	123	22	28	15
Enteric Fever & Paratyphoid			4	3	1	2	—
Diphtheria ...	...	...	17	26	14	5	1
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	1	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	1	3	7	5	3
Encephalitis Lethargica		...	—	2	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		...	—	—	2	—	—
ALL CASES (including Chicken Pox, Pertussis, etc.)		...	79	226	142	120	42*

* This does not include Chicken Pox nor Pertussis—neither of which diseases are notifiable at present.

Bacteriological Examinations.

Full use is made of the County Laboratory at Wakefield. The following examinations were made for the Sanitary District of Ilkley—

Widals Re-action ...	...	...	6
Sputum ...	...	...	31
Diphtheria ...	...	...	12
Ringworm ...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	25
			<hr/>
TOTAL			76

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the year.

	Total	Male	Female	
Births—Legitimate ...	87	43	44	... Birth Rate—10·5
Illegitimate ...	5	2	3	
TOTAL ...	92	45	47	

Deaths (all causes) ... 104 50 54 ... Death Rate—11·8

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—

Legitimate ...	5	1	4
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 100 births—
Legitimate 54·3

Deaths from Measles (all ages), nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), 1.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years), nil.

Number of Still-births, 4.

Estimated Population (1925), 8,749.

	Death Rate	Birth Rate
Ilkley ...	11·8	10·5
England and Wales ...	12·2	18·3

H. T. BATES.

ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Sanitary Inspector's Report

TOWN HALL, ILKLEY,

31st December 1925.

TO THE ILKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year, shewing the work done under the Public Health Acts, Factory and Workshops Acts, etc., the Council's Bye-laws and Regulations relating to Cowsheds, Drainage, etc.

There have been 945 nuisances dealt with, 789 have received the attention of the owners and 156 minor defects affecting the drainage of private houses, mostly partial stoppages to drains and gullies of a temporary character, when the cost was likely to be small, have been attended to by the Council's workmen.

The following is a summary of the sanitary defects remedied; they vary in character, but all have a more or less detrimental effect on the community—

Abattoir Inspection 300	Inspection air-tight covers provided 15
Accumulations of manure or other refuse removed 60	Reconstructed 4
Ashpits delapidated and removed 1	Repairs to drains 90
Black smoke 5	Soil pipes removed, repaired, and ventilated 26
Burial Grounds, Inspections of .. 4	Gullies replaced 96
Bakehouses, Inspections of .. 35	Dustbins provided 91
Cement or otherwise foul sinks removed and glazed sinks provided 14	Dustbins, unnecessary deposit of liquid filth into 21
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops, Inspections of 90	Factory, Workshops, and Work-places inspections 49
Drains—	Houses—
Cleansed on complaint, or by Council's staff 230	Cement concrete floor provided in basements 2
Tested with smoke or chemicals 38	Floors to living-rooms (new) provided or repaired .. 9
Tested with water 10	Filthy condition of 1
Inspection chambers provided 21	

Walls made dry by the insertion of damp courses or other methods	3	Sink or other waste pipes removed, disconnected or trapped ..	30
Walls and ceilings repaired ..	21	Smoke observations taken ..	5
Inquiries into cases of infectious disease	41	Swill tubs so kept as to be a nuisance	2
Inspection of houses on complaint or otherwise	74	Urinals inspected in connection with hotels and other premises	14
Inspection of houses under Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909	40	Water Closets—	
Inspection of work in progress ..	340	Additional w.c.'s provided or repaired	61
Letters and other notifications calling attention to defects ..	316	New pedestals provided ..	50
Miscellaneous defects remedied ..	70	Structural defects remedied ..	45
Overcrowding abated	1	Waste water closets blocked ..	62
Poultry and animals removed ..	9	Water running to waste ..	30
Re-inspection of house, etc. ..	8	Window-sashes hung or otherwise made to open to full size ..	9
Schools inspected	10	Window areas, filthy condition of	8
Sewers blocked or otherwise defective	7	Yard pavement provided in connection with dwelling-houses	5

Two statutory notices were served under The Public Health Acts. By arrangements with the owners, who signed agreements to pay half the cost, 93 slop closets have been converted into water closets; and 6 earth closets have been replaced with new water closets in an improved position, the owner and the Council sharing the cost.

House and Town Planning Act, 1919.

Forty houses have been inspected under the above Act, and a number of minor defects, such as defective sink waste pipes, sanitary fittings, etc., were located and all were remedied by the owners after intimation had reached them.

Thirty-four house-to-house inspections were made under the provisions of the Public Health Acts. No serious defect was found during the visits to these premises.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

There are fourteen cowsheds within the District, and eleven purveyors of milk, the same as last year.

Frequent inspections have been made of the former and the premises of the latter during the year. One cowshed was remodelled, improving the floor, lighting, and ventilation.

There is one producer of "Grade A Milk" within the District. Two Dealer's Licenses and one Supplementary Licence have been issued by the Council to sell "Grade A Milk" under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.

Forty-four samples of new milk were submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified each as "Genuine." Of these twenty were specially submitted for dirt, one was certified as "doubtful." to which I drew the attention of the retailer, while the report upon the others was on the whole satisfactory.

Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.

Inspections have been made at intervals during the year, under the above Act, and the premises were found to be in a clean condition and in compliance with the Act.

Public Abattoir.

Daily inspections have been made at the Public Abattoir, and I found all slaughtering carried out in a proper manner.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year were 566 beasts, 289 calves, 3,910 sheep and lambs, and 1,240 pigs.

An extension to the cooling room, provision of new sheep and pig pens, and a chaining pen erected for beasts, together with a steel-framed building for the use of butchers for the storage of waste fat, bones and other offal awaiting removal to the works for treatment.

The necessary steps are being taken in the matter of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

Food Inspection.

Regular inspections were made of the premises where articles of food were manufactured or prepared.

The following were surrendered as "unfit for food," and destroyed: 251 lbs. of pork, 1101 lbs. of livers and other internal organs, 60 lbs. veal, 56 lbs. mutton, and 14 young fowls, all of which was destroyed.

Two samples of water from private sources were submitted to the Public Analyst, and 1 for bacteriological examination to the County M.O.H., the results of which were highly satisfactory.

Collection of House Refuse.

The frequency of clearing the bins is the same, viz., the greater part of the district weekly, more often in certain cases and where it is found to be necessary, and the balance once in ten days. This has proved to be quite satisfactory. The burning of combustible house refuse has been stressed upon householders at every opportunity, with good results.

The sum of £1,145 12s. 1d. has been expended in the collection and tipping of $2,177\frac{3}{4}$ tons of refuse at the Destructor, and 219 loads to Cocken End and other tips.

Smoke Observations.

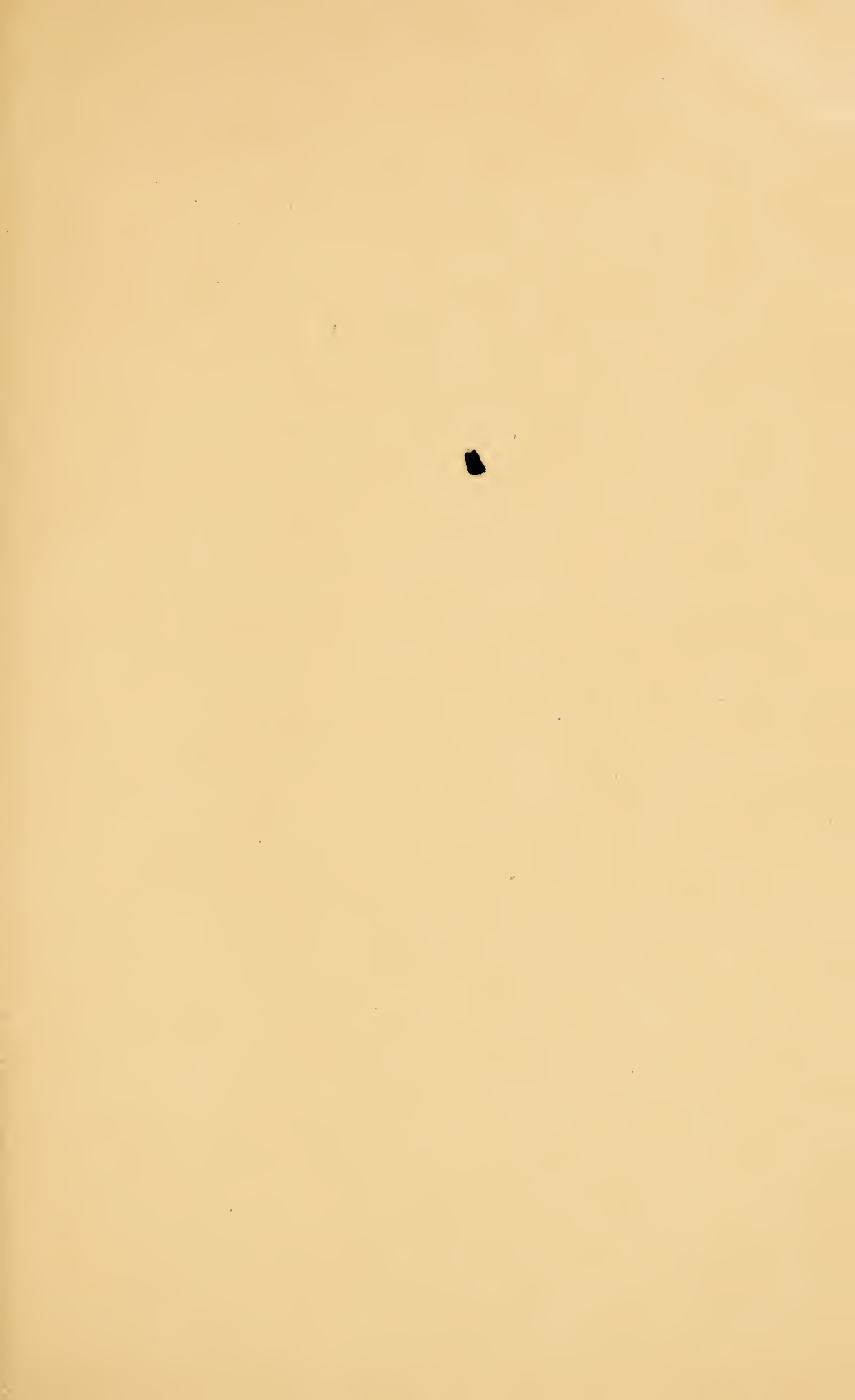
Five observations for black smoke were made in connection with steam boilers, all of which gave bad results. Warnings have been given and steps are to be taken to remedy this.

I am,

Yours obediently,

HY. WEST, A.R.S.I.,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.



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